

OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM
FISCAL YEAR 2011

Instructions

1. Please complete the entire form. **All fields are required.**
2. Please do not **bold**, underline, or *italicize* responses.
3. Request forms must be submitted as a Word document.
4. All completed request forms and any supplemental materials must be submitted via email to:
Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov
5. Please do not send more than one request per email.
6. All completed request forms must be submitted no later than **Friday, February 26, 2010.**
7. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your request within 48 hours of submission, please contact Stephanie Cappa in Congressman Blumenauer's Washington, D.C. office at 202-225-4811.

PLEASE NOTE: All appropriations requests submitted to Congressman Blumenauer's office will be made public on his website, as required by the House Committee on Appropriations.

Project Details

1. **Project title:** Columbia River Gorge Vital Signs Indicators – Forest Lands

2. **Organization name and address** (the recipient of the funds):
Columbia River Gorge Commission
PO Box 730
White Salmon, WA 98672

3. **Contact information**
 - a. **Project's primary contact:** Jill Arens
 - b. **Daytime telephone number/ mobile phone number:** 509-493-3323 x224 days
 - c. **Email Address:** arens@gorgecommission.org
 - d. **Project location** (if different than organization's address): National Scenic Area

4. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.

The Columbia River Gorge Commission was authorized by the 1986 Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act and created through a bi-state compact between Oregon and Washington in 1987. The Commission was established to develop and implement policies and programs that protect and enhance the scenic, natural, cultural and recreational resources of the Gorge, while encouraging growth within existing urban areas of the Gorge and allowing development outside urban areas consistent with resource protection. 'Section 6(d) Standards for the Management Plan – The management plan and all land use ordinances and interim guidelines adopted pursuant to this Act shall include provisions to – (2) protect and enhance forest lands for forest uses and to allow, but not require, conversion of forest lands to agricultural lands, recreation development or open spaces; ...'

5. Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?

Public entity – bi-state compact agency of OR and WA.

6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific –e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)? Agriculture, USFS – State and Private Forestry

7. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (no more than 500 words). This project provides the foundation for measuring conditions in the Columbia Gorge over time for forest lands. Funding is a short-term provision for research, development and initial data collection for forest lands using economic and environmental factors. This rigorous project is based on sound science and will provide information to determine how well the Gorge Commission is implementing the requirements of the Scenic Area Act for forest lands.

8. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon? The goals are to research and evaluate methodology based on sound science for measurements of forest lands in the Columbia Gorge. Indicators for this work include habitat quality and fragmentation, surface and ground water information, forest economic data, and preservation of landscape quality. Data collection and analysis is part of the project too. The results will be the measurements over time and adaptive monitoring, so the Gorge Commission is better informed in its decisions, which in turn will improve the effectiveness of the Commission. The project has wide public support and involvement; as information becomes available from the measurements they will be posted on a dedicated web site for the Vital Signs Indicators. Methodologies, data limitations, assumptions, data and bibliography are available to the public. Funding would provide for employment of in-house scientists as well as local environmental and economic consultation contracts. Distribution of information to the public and partner agencies is a critical piece of this project. Information gathered over time will guide the Gorge Commission in adaptive monitoring to ensure that the standards for forest lands of the National Scenic Area are being met.

9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years? No.

9a. If yes, please provide the fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

FY01:

FY00:

FY99:

FY97:

Funding Details

10. Amount requested for this project: \$469,950

11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000): In-house employment \$268,800; Equipment, computer/peripherals/furniture \$30,900; Software/licenses/data purchases \$13,500; research and methodology contract work, and information distribution \$104,500; data collection contract work \$52,250.

12. What is the total cost of the project? \$2,232,400

13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011?)? Yes

14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts) Many agency partners are providing in-kind donations in the form of technical and scientific expertise. They are listed above, and others include the USFS, OR Department of Forestry, DEQ, Institute for Natural Resources, WA Department of Natural Resources, WA and OR State Historic Preservation agencies, county planning departments in the Scenic Area. The Gorge Commission is applying for grants for the Vital Signs Indicators, although at this time there is no firm commitment. The Gorge Commission will continue to staff the project.

15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project. US Forest Service National Scenic Area, Skamania County, Washington, Skamania Economic Development Council, Washington Parks and Recreation, Clark County, Washington, The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Nez Perce Tribe, Hood River County, Oregon, Wasco County, OR Department of Forestry, WA Department of Natural Resources, Multnomah County, Oregon Parks and Recreation, Washington Investment Board, Oregon Investment Board, ExperienceWashington, TravelOregon, Friends of the Columbia Gorge.

Please return this form no later than Friday, February 26, 2010 via email to:

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Washington, D.C. Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Stephanie Cappa, 202-225-4811, Stephanie.Cappa@mail.house.gov

Oregon Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Sarah Masterson, 503-231-2300, Sarah.Masterson@mail.house.gov